

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 259

By Jackson

A RESOLUTION to commend Alexander Rich's perseverance through hardship and congratulate him upon being accepted to medical school.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should recognize those estimable individuals who, through perseverance and hard work, have achieved an extraordinary level of success despite facing many difficulties and hardships; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable individual is Alexander Rich who has persisted and triumphed over many hardships; and

WHEREAS, born with multiple medical problems at age eight, Alex Rich developed Type I Diabetes and was admitted to the Children's Hospital in Kansas City, Kansas in critical condition; and

WHEREAS, after being released from the hospital, Alex Rich underwent a seven-day experimental treatment to arrest the deterioration of his pancreas and stabilize his diabetes; and

WHEREAS, during this very trying and painful period, Alex Rich persevered and diligently studied to complete his schoolwork; he achieved four A's and one B+ as a result of his hard work; and

WHEREAS, after moving from Kansas to Tennessee to live with his father, Alex Rich attended Webb High School and actively participated in many school clubs and programs; and

WHEREAS, during high school, Alex Rich played football and was on the swimming and diving team; he was a member of the Spanish Club, Model UN, and the school yearbook staff and he also participated in theater and competed in the Scholars Bowl; and

WHEREAS, evincing a deep commitment to learning, Alex Rich attended the Duke TIP program for four summers to study Astronomy and Astrophysics, Archeology, Robotics, and Tropical Ecology; and

WHEREAS, an inspiring leader, Alex Rich was co-captain of Webb High School's football and swimming team; he was also captain of the Scholars Bowl team and Delegation Leader for the Model UN; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, Alex Rich was a National Merit Scholar Semi-Finalist and an AP Commended Scholar; he also received the Most Improved Award for Football and Swimming and placed 3rd at the National Scholars Bowl Championship; and

WHEREAS, triumphing over multiple obstacles and physical infirmities, Alex Rich has developed and matured into an exemplary citizen and a responsible, caring person; and

WHEREAS, committed to the principles of hard work and honesty, Alex Rich has worked as a Department Manager for Best Buy and as a Sales Manager at Staples; he has also performed computer work for Correctional Health Resources and Integrative Health Associates; and

WHEREAS, evincing empathy, great concern and compassion for children with diabetes, Alex Rich volunteers as a mentor for juvenile diabetics, and he has also volunteered with diabetic summer camps; and

WHEREAS, a volunteer for the Hospice of the Rockies, Alex Rich has organized fellow students to "get out and vote" while in college; he was also House Leader of the Music House, and he planned Empty Bowls 2002, which was a fundraising event to fight hunger in Colorado Springs; and

WHEREAS, a senior at Colorado College in Colorado Springs, Alex Rich has achieved an exemplary 3.5 grade point average; and

WHEREAS, serving as a testament to his intelligence, diligence and inner fortitude, Alex Rich has been accepted to attend both the University of Kansas Medical School and the University of Tennessee Medical School; and

WHEREAS, after obtaining his medical degree, Alex Rich will continue his family's tradition of service to others as a physician, as have the three generations before him; and

WHEREAS, Alex Rich exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, an estimable public servant, Alex Rich embodies the noble precepts that have made this Nation great; and

WHEREAS, Alex Rich's noteworthy achievements are a tremendous source of pride of his parents and his dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this Body; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly wishes to seize this golden opportunity to recognize and applaud Alex Rich's stalwart character, deep commitment to academic excellence, and service to the people of this great State; and

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend Alexander Rich for his determination and perseverance in the face of adversity and congratulate him upon his acceptance to medical school.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.